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THE ALBERTA



Counsellor

PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS IN THE INTERESTS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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EDMONTON, ALBERTA

January, 1959

THIS CAN BE OUR GREATEST YEAR!

BUSY TIME AHEAD

Officials of the Department of Municipal Affairs are among those whose views of 1959 are optimistic, according to a year-end survey completed recently. The past year generally is considered good but should be surpassed in progress and volume of work anticipated for the coming months.

Reviews and predictions follow:



While the Department has not received any Financial Statements from municipalities, all indications point to 1959 being another banner year for most municipalities in the Province. Continued inability to market wheat has affected tax collections in some of the more predominant wheat-growing municipalities, but the price of cattle and the ready market for same has been of tremendous benefit to farmers and counteracts to a great extent the disappointing situation in wheat marketing.

The population of our urban centres continues to expand without any apparent let up, which, while gratifying, creates many problems, such as the continued expansion of streets, waterworks and sewerage systems to take care of the increase in population and the consequent requirements of capital borrowing to meet the costs. While some difficulty was experienced in securing the necessary funds, all municipalities were able to find the money for essential borrowings.

Continued expansion of our urban municipalities was evidenced with the formation in 1958 of six more villages, with the towns of Grande Prairie and Lloydminster achieving city status. Two villages became towns during the year.

Much to the gratification of the Department and the University of Alberta, tremendous interest was displayed in the courses in Public Administration which began in the fall of this year. The registration for the courses was beyond all expectation and unfortunately a few applications had to be postponed until 1959.

Interest in the County form of Government remains keen with three new Counties being formed on January 1, 1958, these being the Counties of Beaver, Wetaskiwin and Forty Mile. Applications have been received and approved for the organization of two more Counties for incorporation at the beginning of 1959.

I anticipate the interest in County formation will continue to grow with a number of conversions being made at the beginning of 1960.

A.W. Morrison, Deputy Minister

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING

Without being too specific about actual accomplishments expected, the aims of the Town and Rural Planning Branch for 1959 include the following:

1. Arranging a Public Relations program for better understanding of planning as a tool for building better communities, creating more pleasant living conditions while keeping taxes down, and protecting future growth.

2. Extending District Planning areas as a means of getting local responsibility for planning at minimum cost through cooperation with adjoining municipalities with financial assistance from the Provincial Government.

3. Expanding the program of planning surveys and completion of those now begun for Pincher Creek, Wetaskiwin, Taber, Cardston and (More on Page 8)



WAINWRIGHT HOME OPENED - Symbolic of a new era for the senior citizens of Alberta is the official opening on December 15 of the Battle River Lodge at Wainwright. Ceremonial ribbon was cut by Mrs. White, matron of the beautiful home, ably assisted by Hon. R.D. Jorgenson, Minister of Public Welfare, and A.C. Archibald, Reeve of the Municipal District of Wainwright.

Others on the stage are Chas. Wilbraham, Secretary-Treasurer of the M.D.; N.E. Garrioch, Councillor; Dr. Wallace, Sr., former mayor of Wainwright; Dr. J.D. Wallace, Jr., Mayor; M. Plaxton and D. Mills, Councillors.

Albertans can anticipate similar ceremonies to be held all through the Province in 1959. (See article on page 3).

SEMINARS SAID SUCCESSFUL

Seminars being held in connection with University certificate courses in Public Administration were described recently as "highly successful" by Don A. Bancroft, lecturer with the Department of Extension. He said those taking part are finding the discussions "of considerable value". Meetings usually lasting most of the day are being conducted each month in thirteen widely-separated centres throughout the Province.

Mr. Bancroft reported a total enrollment of 264 "practicing secretary-treasurers, assessors and personnel of the Department of Municipal Affairs". In addition to those attending seminars, two were taking the courses on a "no group" or purely correspondence basis, while another five persons or societies are receiving the weekly lessons for information purposes, some of whom are expected to enroll next year. Referring to those who were not attending the seminars, Mr. Bancroft said this was an experiment to see if courses could be completed successfully without assistance gained through the discussion groups.

Because of physical limits involved, it was found necessary to postpone instruction for thirty-six applicants, Mr. Bancroft stated. He said that since they had begun last October there have been five withdrawals, chiefly of those who had undertaken both the assessors' and the secretary-treasurers' courses.

Seminars will continue in the thirteen Alberta centres until early in April, with the first year examinations being slated for May. ●

THE SECOND PAGE . . .

ARTEMIS

Eve, on her cherry lip-blown hill,
Stood on the tip of a leaf
And trembled Adam.

Behold Adam!
Cry.

Now I, Artemis.
Stand with his bow-bent rib,

Shadow-shaking.

Cry Adam!
Torn in your twisted apple tree.

The gull-green waves
Break
The white gloves of Eden,

Crushing ruck-rimmed river stone
Red.

Lenore Sills

THE RIGHT SPIRIT

Last year about this time we carried a piece in which (thinking of 1958) we observed "There is, indeed, much to be gloomy about." After citing three or four examples we concluded optimistically that 1958 could be a pretty good year ... if we tackled our problems in the right spirit. A real escape clause, if we ever saw one.

With the inherent advantages of hindsight, however, it can now be said that the general picture hasn't darkened appreciably. Depending on our viewpoint, it can even be said to have brightened. Perhaps something of "the right spirit" has permeated our efforts. True, we're not out of the woods yet; and it's doubtful if we ever will be. But we're all a year older and, while not many of us are much richer, at least we're still here.

The Communists are still in there pitching, of course, but somehow they don't seem to be making their usual progress at the moment. The heat has shifted from the Middle East to West Berlin, but there's a comforting unity of purpose regarding this sector which hasn't always characterized our side. Nasser's antics have been dropped from the front pages. De Gaulle may be working wonders for France. All food for thought. And, we think, cautious optimism.

On the national front we have the opening of the Seaway and the royal visit to look forward to. Provincially the program blueprinted for the next five years will begin to take shape. Local governments will be busy with their own progress. And individually, we're going to plan ahead just as we've always done.

So the world enters the gate of the year of our Lord 1959. There will be sowing and reaping, births and bereavements, chuckles and tears much as usual. We mean 1959 could be another pretty good year, if we tackle our problems ... in the right spirit.

SAFE DRIVING

After what were described as "disappointing" results from Safe Driving Week held in December, it looks as if we can only keep on trying. If we realized the next broken neck could be our own, it might help; we just might drive with greater care, courtesy and common sense. But it's not quite that simple.

Dogged efforts to educate the public, more rigid enforcement of the rules with tougher penalties for breaking them - these will probably remain our best weapons against mayhem and murder on our highways. They would be more effective if each one of us assumed personal responsibility for improving the tragic record.

Incidentally, have you ever wondered why trucks are supposed to travel at slower speeds than passenger cars? Is it because they're harder to control? Or is there some other reason?

In any event, let's resolve at this time of the year to drive carefully. The life we save could be our own. It could even be some one else's.



SECRETARY'S CALENDAR

Municipal Districts

- Every Month
5th-Within 5 days after the end of each month secretary-treasurer shall prepare statement of moneys received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter a copy in the minutes. Sec. 61 (1) (v).
- Feb. 1 - Auditor's Financial Statement prepared. Sec. 68 (1).
- Feb. 10 - Secretary-treasurer to mail auditor's statement. Sec. 68 (6).
- Feb. 8 to 10 - Meeting and nomination notices in Forms 3 and 4 Schedule A, Sec. 97 and 101.
- Feb. 14 - Council shall appoint enumerators. Sec. 110 (1).
- Feb. 15 - Prepare assessment roll prior to this date. Sec. 27 (Assessment Act).
- On or before February 15 submit certificate of assessment to school and municipal hospital authorities. Sec. 204 and 297 (School Act). Sec. 110 (Municipal Hospital Act).
- Feb. 21 - Nomination meeting. Sec. 96 (1) (3) (6) and 102.
- Feb. 21 - Nominations shall be received from 3 to 4 p.m. Sec. 103.
- Feb. 23 - Withdrawal of Candidate within 48 hours after close of nominations. Sec. 108.
- Feb. 23 - After expiry of 48 hours from close of nominations, enumerators shall prepare list of qualified persons not on list of electors. Sec. 113 and 114.
- Secretary-treasurer shall complete list of electors and certify on the 2nd Saturday of March. Sec. 116 to 119.
- Feb. 28 - Auditor shall send notice to at least 15% of taxpayers in arrears. Sec. 67 (5).
- Assessment slips to be mailed prior to March 1st. Sec. 29 (Assessment Act).
- Appoint Court of Revision. Sec. 38 (Assessment Act).
- Advise complainants re Court of Revision. Sec. 39 (Assessment Act).

Towns and Villages

- Every Month
15th-Secretary-treasurer shall prepare statement of moneys received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter in minutes. Sec. 67(r).
- Feb. 1 - Auditor shall prepare statements. Sec. 76 (1).
- Feb. 2 - Secretary-treasurer shall post notices of annual meeting. Sec. 125 (2).
- Feb. 9 - Secretary-treasurer shall publish synopsis of auditor's report. Sec. 76 (5).
- Feb. 9 - Annual meeting of electors. Sec. 125 (1). Submission of reports. Sec. 126 (1).
- Feb. 15 - Certificate of assessment to school and municipal hospital authorities. Sec. 284 (School Act) Sec. 110 (Municipal Hospital Act).
- Feb. 15 - Prepare assessment roll prior to February 15. Sec. 27 (Assessment Act).
- Feb. 28 - Auditor to send notice to 25% of taxpayers who have not paid in full. Sec. 74 (5).
- March 1 - Assessment slips to be mailed prior to March 1st. Sec. 29 (Assessment Act).
- Appoint Court of Revision. Sec. 38 (Assessment Act).
- Advise complainants re Court of Revision. Sec. 39 (Assessment Act).

THIS MONTH

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"... ONE-STOREY STRUCTURES WITH ALL SERVICES ..."

OLD FOLKS AT HOME

BY HON. R. D. JORGENSEN.

MINISTER OF PUBLIC WELFARE

History has a happy knack of remembering and preserving for posterity the deeds and lives of great people, and it is right that this is so. But what about the farmer who tills the soil, or the man on the street, or he who carries a lunch bucket to and from his work? Too many of us, no doubt, are apt to think of him as a laborer, a counter hopper or some one who is performing a menial task. True, he does this as a means of a livelihood. But if it were not for him, day after day doing his seemingly humdrum task, what would the people in other endeavors do?

Let us pause for just a moment and try to assess how important he is to our way of life. It is he, largely, who creates a demand for consumer goods, and thereby keeps the wheels of both primary and secondary industry rolling.

Someone has said, "It is to labor and to labor only, that man owes everything of exchangeable value. Labor is the talisman that has raised him from the conditions of the savage, that has changed the desert and the forest into cultivated fields; that has covered the earth with cities; and the ocean with ships; that has given us plenty, comfort, and elegance instead of want, misery and barbarism."

This quotation should serve to remind us how much we owe to the man who carries a lunch bucket.

Many of these people have given unstintingly of their time in community efforts and it is only fitting and proper that we show our gratitude for services rendered by making it possible as they grow older to live in homes, in surroundings where they can associate with people of their own age and where friends and relatives can visit them in a happy and dignified atmosphere.

FIRST MAJOR PROJECT

As the first step in our five-year anti-recession program, properly located in areas serving the entire province, fifty new homes for senior citizens will be constructed by the Alberta Government. Work on these homes will commence early in 1959. Each will have accommodation for fifty persons.

In addition, two special units have been proposed for each of Calgary and Edmonton, to provide housing for eight hundred persons in each city.

The Alberta Government will bear the total cost of construction and furnishing of the homes. They will be constructed on acceptable land provided by the municipalities in the area where the homes are located. When completed, they will be turned over to the people of the areas they serve. The estimated cost of this modern accommodation of 4100 senior citizens of Alberta is approximately \$16,000,000.00.

Taking a long range view of the housing needs for our older people the program outlined will enable municipalities to build low rental accommodation on a self-sustaining basis. It is hoped that in this way it will not be necessary to levy additional taxes for future housing.

NOT CHRONIC HOSPITALS

As I go about the province I find that many confuse the chronic hospital with homes for the aged. So that there will be no misunderstanding, these homes are not chronic hospitals, nor are they nursing homes. They are provided for those that are up and around but for various reasons should not be living alone.

It will no doubt be of interest to you that a study has revealed that from 15 to 20 percent of people in active treatment hospitals should be in chronic hospitals and fifty percent, more or less, of those in chronic hospitals should be in homes.

Primarily these homes are to serve the older people. Entry to the homes will be based on eligibility according to need.

Should a municipality find it necessary to place one of their residents in a home, who is unable to provide for himself, the Government will reimburse to the municipality by way of grant up to 80 per-

cent of the cost, as is done in all public assistance cases.

Government policy has foreseen the need of such a program, and has over a number of years made it possible, through self-liquidating loans, for nearly all towns and villages to install sewer and water. In fact, there are 86 towns in Alberta with a population of 300 or over, 83 of which are equipped with modern facilities. Because of this far-sighted program, we are now able in an orderly manner to erect homes to meet the needs of the whole province, knowing that we will not be hampered because of the lack of facilities.

I would like at this time to say how much we appreciate the interest that is evident in all parts of the province, and particularly the spirit of good will and co-operation that has characterized the many delegations which have called upon the Department in the interest of our older folks.

With your continued help and interest the first year of our anti-recession program, 1959, will be recorded as the greatest year in our history, the year the people of Alberta built the homes for our deserving senior citizens.

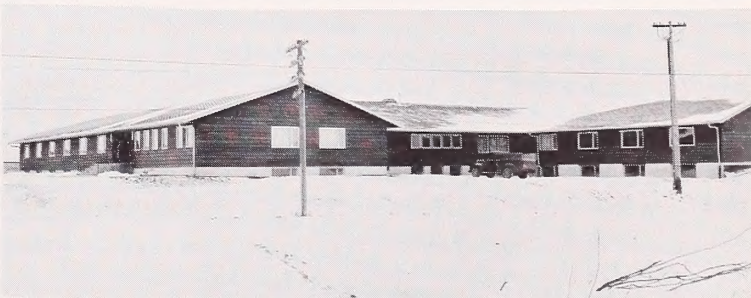
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following are questions most often asked about Alberta's Home-building program.

1. What were the factors which influenced the Government to embark on a program to provide accommodation for elderly persons on a Province-wide basis?

EXPLANATION: The humane and spiritual aspects of a program to provide accommodation for the elderly citizens of the Province who have contributed so much at tremendous sacrifice to the development of this country is apparent to all, and in the last year or so has become the subject of much thought by citizens generally. There is however a material side to the matter which the Government has been aware of for some considerable time, which affects us all as individuals, and which now can become effective to comply with the requests of the people. The material aspect has to do with the overall problem of care for people generally. At the present time the facilities of our high capital and maintenance cost active treatment hospitals are strained to the breaking point, and bed space for persons needing immediate bed care in these institutions is unavailable. There are however, a large number of persons occupying active treatment hospital beds, who could be cared for adequately in existing chronic hospitals such as St. Joseph's or Good Samaritan and other kindred chronic hospitals throughout the Province, were it not for the fact that these facilities were taxed to the limit in caring for a high percentage of elderly persons who need no care apart from that which could be given to them in homes for the aged, which are relatively low capital and maintenance cost structures as compared to active treatment hospitals. The construction of homes for the aged will have immediate effect in relieving the pressure on active treatment hospitals and can conceivably result in lessening the need for new construction of these high cost buildings. Additionally, many elderly persons who are now deteriorating to a physical condition requiring active hospital treatment or chronic hospital care because of inadequate

(More on Page 7)



BATTLE RIVER LODGE - This handsome structure is a credit to the town and Municipal District of Wainwright. Built at a cost in excess of \$200,000, it provides the finest of modern, homey accommodation for as many as 50 senior Albertans.



The ASSOCIATION'S FIFTIETH CONVENTION - No cutline can add to this historic occasion . . . but it might be appropriate to record at this t

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the hope that the faces of those assembled for the convention of 2,008 will reflect the same optimism shown above.

(Wells Photo)

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COMPILED BY T. D. BRUCE, STATISTICIAN, D. M. A.

1957 COMPARISON OF GRANTS AND TAXES IN COUNTIES AND MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

	DIRECT GRANTS						INDIRECT GRANTS			Total 1957 Tax Levy	Total Grants and Taxes	% of Grants to Total				
	Public Wel- fare Assis- tance Act	Home for the Aged and In- firm Act	Hospital Agree- ments	Municipal Assistance Act	Road Grants	Land and Forest Leases	Agric- ultural Service Board	Contin- gency Grant	Miscell- aneous				School Operational	School Capital	Hospital	
COUNTIES																
Grande Prairie #1	7,307.71	1,897.64	-	75,653.14	103,131.00	-	2,977.24	34,499.09	-	300,651.42	5,532.83	80,802.92	612,502.99	603,920.67	1,216,423.66	50.35
Vulcan #2	1,446.16	1,149.51	-	106,739.19	108,422.00	9,925.84	5,033.50	11,775.16	-	190,560.81	36,113.43	46,189.96	517,355.56	763,594.38	1,280,949.94	40.39
Ponoka #3	2,996.82	-	-	74,208.55	80,630.00	631.43	1,503.91	49,937.05	1,557.62	233,818.21	98,126.87	78,187.88	621,598.34	530,909.34	1,152,507.68	53.93
Newell #4	381.18	214.86	-	79,531.65	90,848.54	205.96	2,204.15	65,152.95	-	344,894.62	131,984.54	53,962.44	769,380.89	396,915.50	1,166,296.39	65.97
Warner #5	3,503.51	-	-	84,203.77	77,132.00	9,139.82	-	31,317.30	-	252,777.25	110,428.31	46,825.56	615,327.52	582,095.21	1,197,422.73	51.39
Stettler #6	967.45	921.11	-	82,186.14	79,429.00	1,560.52	4,133.73	30,661.97	-	198,885.59	30,280.64	55,033.88	484,060.03	746,195.05	1,230,255.08	39.35
Thorhild #7	305.14	1,774.11	22,610.35	55,967.18	45,366.00	1,365.99	1,505.95	24,630.98	-	227,651.44	71,476.92	50,811.68	503,465.74	401,510.76	904,976.50	55.63
MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS																
Forty Mile #2	1,181.44	2,026.77	3,151.77	89,603.05	79,988.30	27,787.47	-	28,370.68	2,636.37	129,787.46	51,858.91	38,353.92	454,746.14	570,474.15	1,025,220.29	44.35
Cardston #6	2,609.40	1,355.08	15,043.84	78,943.15	73,082.00	1,673.99	2,465.03	307.69	3,307.69	316,225.43	95,580.88	49,013.84	621,256.49	433,307.36	1,054,563.85	58.91
Pincher Creek #9	145.45	-	-	57,897.15	46,437.00	1,291.34	6,754.02	26,151.17	1,487.47	77,310.40	101,423.82	28,229.72	362,171.38	370,423.95	732,595.33	49.44
Taber #14	1,784.17	677.70	-	74,576.91	67,406.00	16,757.59	5,684.25	24,831.50	15,000.00	319,653.65	2,780.06	61,108.40	590,260.23	481,627.55	1,071,887.82	55.07
Lethbridge #25	11,048.36	-	-	90,379.85	100,133.00	810.25	-	9,802.68	11,000.00	476,011.10	45,702.65	105,545.92	823,525.54	680,906.62	1,504,432.16	47.95
Willow Creek #26	678.28	654.57	-	105,531.04	92,767.00	3,201.37	2,371.80	18,081.29	-	166,320.52	1,018.20	57,603.52	400,122.86	578,431.72	978,554.58	40.89
Foothills #31	4,168.22	1,291.02	-	35,982.50	16,248.00	2,538.01	1,727.13	9,874.33	2,703.25	166,320.42	-	71,750.16	469,472.42	802,481.91	1,271,954.33	36.91
Acadia #34	1,053.36	1,418.20	-	96,147.37	98,324.00	-	315.14	50,741.91	-	160,183.22	-	8,299.12	117,098.54	62,873.59	179,972.13	65.06
Wheatland #40	19,676.02	1,650.62	-	119,550.37	134,526.00	506.17	1,592.50	25,092.46	15,000.00	212,372.31	31,283.75	50,684.56	506,428.87	677,800.84	1,184,229.71	42.76
Rocky View #44	943.14	1,880.94	-	61,654.40	49,632.00	5,983.39	3,956.07	26,823.89	4,650.25	71,553.17	38,139.95	116,115.04	300,673.90	995,626.22	1,671,861.48	40.45
Starland #47	1,599.22	1,503.85	-	83,849.70	91,497.00	915.93	2,144.55	26,823.89	2,562.58	159,689.23	51,171.78	64,059.40	494,856.76	785,618.85	1,280,475.61	38.65
Kneehill #48	1,599.22	1,503.85	-	83,849.70	91,497.00	915.93	2,144.55	26,823.89	2,562.58	159,689.23	51,171.78	64,059.40	494,856.76	785,618.85	1,280,475.61	38.65
Mountain View #49	764.87	380.38	2,180.52	92,724.58	96,507.00	765.94	-	44,530.63	1,213.15	276,627.86	70,905.11	84,198.84	666,259.96	847,972.72	1,514,232.68	44.00
Provost #52	2,205.05	1,001.70	-	63,068.84	56,031.00	6,662.43	-	16,966.51	-	132,153.89	16,013.40	32,878.68	328,813.67	351,325.36	680,139.03	48.34
Paintearth #53	1,001.70	-	-	60,466.39	55,309.00	1,192.48	2,367.50	20,329.94	8,044.03	166,882.99	38,550.33	31,916.20	377,854.08	312,476.83	690,330.91	54.73
Red Deer #55	1,275.55	1,938.89	-	67,176.70	68,990.00	3,386.91	2,511.70	23,848.22	5,805.06	411,929.40	88,449.00	116,496.40	893,434.41	1,016,382.07	1,909,816.48	46.78
Wainwright #61	1,477.02	584.67	-	85,740.71	88,990.00	771.53	-	26,699.27	8,044.03	302,391.24	105,546.99	40,687.48	731,760.28	649,587.41	1,381,347.69	52.97
Flagstaff #62	-	-	41,494.22	97,598.07	119,396.27	1,202.98	-	15,675.81	2,412.50	423,530.46	117,095.19	61,798.48	800,499.69	846,956.80	1,647,456.49	48.59
Camrose #63	7,248.11	900.00	33,485.10	94,645.97	87,910.00	399.80	4,383.50	25,012.57	2,414.25	293,235.38	54,069.40	75,827.08	640,703.52	838,891.45	1,479,594.97	43.30
Lacombe #64	12,129.89	2,173.47	-	94,645.97	87,910.00	124,611.06	9,691.61	23,015.83	3,797.63	237,880.52	101,168.86	84,752.72	723,217.87	946,309.70	1,669,527.57	43.32
Vermilion River #71	3,672.47	501.00	10,631.57	79,229.71	78,870.00	802.02	4,220.54	20,544.67	-	221,173.53	85,102.84	61,217.36	545,421.04	621,317.63	1,166,738.67	46.75
Minburn #72	2,104.24	1,092.48	344.22	77,092.59	82,570.00	2,525.05	2,110.50	29,412.57	1,912.25	350,957.27	189,782.97	85,914.96	669,128.18	543,482.71	1,212,610.89	55.18
Beaver #73	10,063.68	2,102.88	32,584.36	81,327.51	86,590.00	3,188.26	2,706.55	29,412.57	3,468.45	423,530.46	122,155.53	99,233.48	566,929.45	637,424.83	1,520,514.29	58.08
Wetaskiwin #74	8,312.44	3,460.18	47,740.56	98,593.80	100,968.00	1,517.91	4,735.12	80,406.74	7,064.40	423,530.46	122,155.53	99,233.48	566,929.45	637,424.83	1,520,514.29	58.08
Leduc #75	1,713.20	7,050.87	-	65,897.12	77,479.00	284.04	1,889.02	14,711.18	886.00	303,318.22	29,105.68	64,595.12	523,359.69	523,359.69	1,090,289.14	52.00
Eagle #81	2,550.42	1,006.32	45,144.39	76,277.54	88,954.12	372.80	2,200.00	19,124.49	878.00	289,983.99	1,040.03	69,916.00	597,448.10	508,612.99	1,106,061.09	54.01
Lamont #82	6,745.77	8,298.86	50,276.42	130,000.00	77,994.00	53.01	3,029.50	9,984.23	-	161,017.63	140,700.99	80,566.84	668,467.25	1,691,887.24	2,360,354.49	28.32
Strathcona #83	7,751.39	2,064.89	37,016.53	79,768.32	67,236.00	333.43	2,477.04	28,256.51	5,345.85	404,345.71	70,481.55	72,449.32	679,498.23	743,410.35	1,422,908.58	47.75
Stony Plain #84	3,713.08	1,349.44	-	56,700.69	66,932.00	1,232.23	1,489.86	79,905.74	15,000.00	300,964.16	-	81,384.04	605,588.28	313,700.46	919,288.74	65.87
St. Paul #86	5,567.80	795.12	20,257.83	47,282.16	38,959.50	1,120.52	1,902.73	25,388.31	576.50	284,428.37	179,629.30	50,694.36	656,248.40	281,609.54	937,857.94	62.97
Bonnyville #87	2,682.88	769.62	5,087.80	52,072.67	53,075.00	915.29	2,048.75	9,999.92	-	415,996.59	73,738.02	12,589.42	752,703.09	435,599.90	1,188,302.99	63.34
Sturgeon River #90	2,652.57	41,449.63	77,569.37	92,073.00	92,073.00	11.21	1,528.30	32,495.11	2,117.10	355,461.04	54,796.10	79,277.48	752,703.09	380,521.58	936,275.76	59.36
Westlock #92	3,547.74	2,552.55	63,007.17	69,105.58	83,105.00	5,112.82	1,254.40	19,012.08	-	292,386.68	18,100.06	62,579.36	555,754.18	380,521.58	936,275.76	59.36
Lac Ste. Anne #93	5,282.76	3,409.41	22,261.40	56,285.68	68,038.71	3,867.13	3,760.91	76,849.14	528.50	342,929.57	167,840.76	66,892.36	809,554.63	280,444.01	1,089,998.64	74.27
Athabasca #103	1,578.37	482.76	3,542.13	57,012.11	77,619.00	12,474.73	1,805.20	75,235.28	-	296,467.46	33,460.40	53,971.52	568,959.74	247,402.39	816,362.13	69.69
Barhead #106	69.08	1,778.84	-	50,562.80	52,411.00	5,003.36	1,041.68	17,752.24	5,000.00	188,023.62	10,153.14	35,511.40	411,067.40	243,707.60	654,775.00	62.78
Smoky River #130	1,161.00	1,334.22	42,745.84	51,376.14	42,693.00	14,275.12	1,041.68	19,594.21	-	88,653.74	8,431.67	12,830.04	185,998.00	95,246.11	281,244.11	66.13
Smoky River #133	364.80	-	-	37,185.25	16,007.00	2,931.29	-	24,725.56	-	88,653.74	8,431.67	12,830.04	185,998.00	95,246.11	281,244.11	66.13
Peace #135	1,635.54	1,288.44	-	40,134.72	19,252.00	772.63	1,718.98	24,725.56	-	88,653.74	8,431.67	12,830.04	185,998.00	95,246.11	281,244.11	66.13
Fairview #136	134.52	369.88	-	41,352.77	28,134.00	1,013.11	-	26,981.91	-	129,529.97	32,572.96	17,115.80	277,204.92	128,248.12	405,453.04	68.37
	150,096.87	61,831.35	517,445.30	3,087,383.75	3,106,402.60	150,536.32	98,109.65	1,100,727.30	134,978.03	10,180,194.00	2,804,581.84	2,453,910.38	23,846,197.39	22,928,609.72	46,774,807.11	50.98

NOTE: Direct grants except for the contingency grant are as shown in each Municipality's Audited Financial Statement. The Contingency Grant is money paid by the Province for special road work on municipal roads. In the case of counties, school grants are paid direct to the county councils but all other indirect grants are grants paid to the school and hospital authorities concerned. However to express these grants in terms of their assistance to municipalities we have prorated school grants on an assessment basis and hospital grants on a provincial per-capita basis. The resulting figures should therefore be considered as approximations only.

"... HEALTHFUL HAPPY LIVING ..."



COMBINED DINING and ENTERTAINING AREA in the Battle River Lodge faces the stage shown in the picture on page 1. Kitchen is through the first door on right.

OLD FOLKS AT HOME

(From Page 3)

quate diet and unsuitable living conditions, can be restored to a continuing state of healthful happy living through the facilities to be provided, where surroundings conducive to a full life amongst persons of their own generation will be available.

2. What was the basis for computing the amount of accommodation to be initially provided under the plan?

EXPLANATION: The 1956 census revealed that there were 49,531 persons 70 years of age and over in the Province. Of this number, approximately 20,000 were in receipt of pension, supplementary allowance and medical benefits, or in other words had no income apart from the pensions which they received. In addition, roughly 5,000 persons between 65-69 years of age are completely dependent on the pensions which they receive. Of the 49,531 persons 70 years of age and over, 9,267 resided in greater Edmonton, 9,872 live in Greater Calgary, leaving a total of 29,392 residing elsewhere throughout the Province. Insofar as these rural areas are concerned, it was considered that if accommodation could be provided for approximately 10% of the age group 70 years and over, that new construction to care for approximately 8 1/2% would be required when taking into consideration existing homes of a reasonably high standard. On this basis new accommodation for 2,500 elderly persons appeared to be a reasonably sound starting figure, in order to ensure that homes handed to the peoples of the areas for ownership and administration could operate on a sound economic basis.

3. How were the number of homes and their capacity arrived at?

EXPLANATION: It has been the desire of the people that homes be situated throughout the Province in a pattern which would ensure that no home was too far removed from the homesite of any person in the populated areas of the Province, which is sound because people cannot be happy when removed from the general locality where they have spent their lives and made their friends. To accomplish this, it was necessary in planning to designate the areas to be created for administrative purposes, and also to establish the exact location of the home which would best serve an area when considered in relation to the location of the other homes in the province-wide plan. In order to facilitate administration, the boundaries of each administrative area will be the boundaries of a municipal district or county, or the co-terminous boundaries of more than one municipal district, county or improvement district where the need is apparent. Each incorporated village, town and city lying within these administrative boundaries will become participants on an equal share basis in the ownership and administration of the home. Although boundaries will be defined for administrative purposes, it is to be hoped that they will not become artificial barriers which will preclude right of admittance to the home of persons residing outside the administrative area. An occupancy figure of fifty was decided on for each home, as being the optimum number of persons that can be accommodated without the home becoming an institution where the close contact between matron and resident is lost, and the harmonious relationship between the residents is endangered. Construction and administrative costs for a home for fifty persons will be relatively the same as the cost for a home of lesser size, but economically a home for less than fifty persons could not hope to operate without a deficit, because of the lesser revenue which would be obtained from fewer residents.

4. What medium is to be established through which homes can be handed to the peoples of an area for ownership and administration.

EXPLANATION: It is only through the interest and participation of

the peoples of an area that these buildings will become in truth the homes where life will become interesting and meaningful. To elicit this interest and sense of responsibility it will be best to have the homes vested in the name of the people through ownership by the municipalities in the administrative areas. Legislation cannot be anticipated; however, a Foundation would appear to be a medium offering the greatest degree of flexibility, whereby ownership and control would be vested in the municipal governments of an administrative area. Certain Ministerial control would have to be exercised over basic aspects of procedure and administration to maintain a standardization of operation throughout all the homes. Although ownership would be shared on an equal basis by all the participating municipalities of an administrative area, any contribution towards the cost of establishment and operation of the home should be shared in proportion to the assessments of the respective municipalities. Municipalities are being requested to provide a landsite of not less than five acres more or less on which the homes will be constructed. This acreage will enable attractive setting and landscaping to be planned, and will provide for extension of the services as time progresses and the need becomes apparent, through the construction of low rental housing units for elderly couples in close proximity to the lodge. It is anticipated that with full occupancy, surpluses will accrue from the lodge operation under efficient management, and this money can be supplemented with monies contributed by service clubs who are anxious to participate in community welfare services, to construct low rental units from year to year until an optimum number exist in relation to the accommodation of the lodge. When this point is reached and the requirements of an area indicate the need for further combined type accommodation, further projects should be contemplated elsewhere in the area.

5. What services are to be provided in the homes, and will homes operate on a sound economical basis with the residents paying their own way?

EXPLANATION: The homes will be one-storey structures with all services to contribute to the comfort and physical well being of fifty active elderly persons of both sexes. Kitchen and dining services will be provided, with lounge and communal rooms. Provision will be made for occupational therapy activities, and facilities provided for the resident to wash and iron their clothing. Present regulations call for a person in receipt of pension and supplementary allowance to contribute \$60.00 towards his maintenance in a home for the aged. This would appear to be a reasonable sum to anticipate as a maintenance rate, which will leave the elderly person with the feeling of satisfaction that he is paying his own way and is not the object of charity. If the lodges were operating at full occupancy at such a rate, it could result in a surplus which as mentioned before will assist in the financing of the construction of low rental housing units in progressive stages.



THE BACK FENCE

Sir:

As Field Supervisor of a Service Board and secretary of the Association of Field Supervisors in Alberta, I wish to congratulate Mr. Lobay on his article "Agricultural Service Boards" in the June, 1958 issue of The COUNSELLOR which has recently come to my attention.

As Mr. Lobay states, the Agricultural Service Board Act was passed in 1945 but after twelve years of operation it is still not fully known to many farmers. A few (who have come in contact with Boards through weed and soil control, pest control, bang's control, seed drill surveys, seed cleaning plants, seed fairs, tree planting, sewage disposal, fire warden duties, civil defence, farm purchase board appraisals, community pasture projects, leasing rights and arrangements, or just to be advised on the many problems that arise on the farm) have a passing knowledge of Service Board activities. The two councillors and the two ratepayer members appointed by the municipal council have to be on the Board at least two years before they are really familiar with all of the activities of the Board.

Agricultural Service Boards have recently completed an annual report of their activities for 1958. A summary of these reports published in The COUNSELLOR would be a valuable service to agriculture.

W.S. Backman.

* We've taken the matter up with Mr. Lobay and if the summary isn't too voluminous, we shall be pleased to publish it. Ed.

BUSY YEAR AHEAD (From Page 1)

Lacombe in close cooperation with local planning advisory commissions.

4. Working in cooperation with many municipalities and government departments in advising on suitable locations for projects to be carried out under the Five Year Development program, including major parks, recreation centres and resort projects.

Ralph Rookwood, Director

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ASSESSMENT BRANCH

We submit the following prognostications for 1959 in which confidence is shared by all members of this Branch:

All Albertan municipalities including cities will be utilizing the same new Assessment Manual for property valuation purposes.

The Assessment Equalization Board will inject further improvements into the formula for the equalization of assessments throughout the Province.

J.B. Laidlaw, Assessment Commissioner

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TAX RECOVERY BRANCH

We believe that it is safe to predict that tax collections in 1959 will be close to 99 percent. There will be a greater demand for reclaimed tax recovery land and as a result an increase in actual sales can be anticipated for the new year.

K.C. Switzer, Supervisor

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MECHANICAL ACCOUNTING BRANCH

The work we're carrying on at the present time will, in 1959, be increased by 10 percent.

W.G. Stewart, Supervisor

ALBERTA ASSESSMENT APPEAL BOARD

Being closely connected with municipal assessment and taxation throughout the province, we have a responsibility to municipalities and ratepayers alike which is shared by every member of the Department. I predict that 1959 will see our assessment standards more closely approach that degree of perfection whereby no man shall be required to render unto Caesar more than his just share.

And human nature being what it is, we will still have appeals to deal with. Members of the Board thus look forward to another busy year.

E.F. Breach, Chairman

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MUNICIPAL INSPECTION BRANCH

Generally speaking, I would say there will not be much change in the number and classifications of municipal organizations as set up today.

Because of the interest being taken in the Public Administration course, I look forward to further improvement in the administrative efficiency of secretary-treasurers.

B. Ramsay, Chief Municipal Inspector

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LIAISON OFFICE

1959 will bring to the people of Alberta several new problems - one of them the problem of manpower to handle all the jobs on which we will embark in the spring. A number of our citizens will find themselves lifted up and transported to a new town in the Swan Hills area - and a great many more will be working on some fifty homes for senior citizens in fifty different Alberta communities, while government and private enterprise will compete for the services of others. It will be a good year, chiefly notable for the facing of a problem that no one, at the moment, can foresee.

Blake MacKenzie, Liaison Officer

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FIELD SERVICE BRANCH



The Field Service Branch in 1959 will continue its program of reassessment in our improvement districts.

Our policy of establishing Advisory Committees in I.D.'s is bringing most gratifying results, with committees already working in five improvement districts. It is our intention soon to expand the program to I.D.'s 79 (Mercoal) and 22 (Suffield).

A.R. Isbister, Supervisor

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CARRAN RETIRES

Tribute was paid to H.E. Carran, retiring field man and assessor with the Field Service Branch for Lac La Biche, at a gathering held in the Highways Building in December. Mr. Carran has held the post since April, 1938.

In presenting a Brief case and a purse to Mr. Carran, Deputy Minister A.W. Morrison said he had given the Department twenty years of "very faithful service" and thanked Mr. Carran for a job well done. He is being succeeded by L.J. Bartman, former assistant assessor in the district.

Asked about his plans for the future, Mr. Carran said he owned a farm in the Lac La Biche district. "I propose to spend my time on it," he concluded.

MUNICIPAL NOTES

OPEN PLANT AT SEXSMITH - Most northerly municipal seed cleaning plant in Alberta was opened December 15 at Sexsmith by R.M. Putnam, Deputy Minister of Agriculture. Construction costs of seed cleaning plants are divided between the municipality and the Province each of which contributes \$16,000. Farmers pay a like amount through purchase of shares. The plant at Sexsmith makes 29 now operating in Alberta.

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MUNICIPAL POLICE - Forty policemen from Alberta towns recently completed a six-weeks training course sponsored by the Attorney-General's Department. Instructed by RCMP and city police, the graduates numbered twenty-seven in Edmonton and thirteen in Calgary. The object of the course was to increase efficiency and raise the status of local police forces.

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HAT SETS SAFETY RECORD - December 21, last, was the 1500th consecutive day without a traffic fatality in Medicine Hat. This established a record covering the North American continent for cities with a population of 20,000 or more. The local traffic safety association is looking forward to a new mark of 1600 and, hopefully, 2000 days free from traffic deaths.

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SEVENTY MILLIONS NEEDED - Municipalities are expected to borrow an estimated \$70,000,000 from Alberta's Municipal Finance Corporation for their capital needs during 1959. The Corporation was reinstated earlier this year after having ceased operations during the past year. It is anticipated the Corporation will go on the open market to borrow the money on behalf of the municipalities under a provincial guarantee.

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PROVINCIAL-MUNICIPAL RELATIONS - A six-man Provincial-Municipal Advisory Committee has been set up to help resolve problems arising between the two levels of government. Committee members include J.M. McKay of Brant and Gordon Moyer of Ft. Saskatchewan, representing the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts; Mayor William Hawrelak of Edmonton and J. McAfee of Red Deer, representing the Union of Alberta Municipalities, and two yet unnamed members of the Cabinet.

* * * *

Medical science has progressed to the point where you can live much longer if you will give up everything that makes you want to.

CODE FOR 1959

Take time to think, it's the source of power;
Take time to play, it's the secret of perpetual youth;
Take time to read, it's the fountain of wisdom;
Take time to love and be loved, it's a God-given privilege;
Take time to be friendly, it's the road to happiness;
Take time to laugh, it's the music of the soul;
Take time to give, it's too short a day to be selfish;
Take time to work, it's the price of success.